

VZCZCXRO6250
RR RUEHDBU RUEHPW RUEHSL
DE RUEHBUL #1782 1891158
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 081158Z JUL 09
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0034
INFO RUCNAFG/AFGHANISTAN COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS KABUL 001782

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA, SCA/PPD, SCA/SRAP

E.O. 12958 N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPAO](#) [KFLU](#) [AF](#)

SUBJECT: PRESS STATEMENT ON H1N1 CASES AT BAGRAM AIRBASE

11. (U) SUMMARY: Public Affairs officers from the U.S. Embassy and USFOR-A met with officials from the Ministry of Public Health July 8 to draft a press statement on the 14 influenza cases at Bagram Air Base, which the Ministry released the afternoon of the same day.
END SUMMARY.

TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE

12. (U) 14 confirmed, mild cases of Influenza among US citizens detected, treated at Bagram Airbase

13. (U) Kabul, 8 July 2009 - In the past few days 14 cases of influenza (H1N1) have been reported from Bagram Air base among US citizens. All have been properly treated, recovered and returned to work. The Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) also sent an investigation team to the area. The team conducted a rapid assessment of clinics in the area and could not find any suspected cases. The MoPH is working closely with the US agencies and the World Health Organization to monitor the situation. To date no cases have been detected among Afghans.

14. (U) MoPH is prepared to detect and treat influenza and has a nationwide sensitive surveillance system. MoPH is vigilantly assessing the situation in Afghanistan, the region and the world and is in touch with different organizations including the WHO.

15. (U) A command and control center is in place at the MoPH Kabul and 3 telephone lines are available to provide information and guidance.
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16. (U) For query please contact: Dr. Farid Raaaid, a.raaaid@gmail.com, 0799002793

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